(b) if so, the details of the same;

(c) whether there is any proposal to disinvest through bidding, restricted to two private companies;

(d) if not, whether Government oil companies like BPCL, IOC and others are being permitted to buy Government shares; and

(e) the present status of IBP's proposal to finance its projects of additional product tankage facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (d) The Disinvestment Commission has recommended that the Government may hold 26% equity in IBP and offer upto 33% equity out of the Government holding of 59% to a strategic buyer. No decision has yet been taken on this recommendation.

(e) Generally, the projects of IBP are financed by internal resources and loans from Oil Industry Development Board (OIDB) from time to time.

Disinvestment in PS Us in Assam

343. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the disinvestment figures in PSUs in Assam;

(b) whether Assam and other North-Eastern States are weak in infrastructure and market facilities; and

(c) if so, whether Government will review their policy of disinvestment in PSUs in Assam as well as in other States of North-East?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (c) The Government has no separate disinvestment policy in respect to any particular State or region. The disinvestment policy of the Government, applicable to all the PSUs, is to bring down the Government equity to 26% in generality of cases. In cases of public sector enterprises involving strategic considerations, Government will continue to retain majority holding.